

86TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 80

[Report No. 916]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1959

Mr. BENTLEY introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

AUGUST 17, 1959

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out the preamble; omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for the erection of a memorial tablet at Garden Key, Florida, in honor of Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd.

Whereas historians are virtually in unanimous agreement that Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd, of Charles County, Maryland, did not know of the death of Abraham Lincoln at the time the said Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd gave medical aid and a night's lodging to John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln; and

Whereas the same historians agree that John Wilkes Booth concealed his true identity from Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd when he visited Doctor Mudd's home in the black of the night, following the assassination of President Lincoln; and

Whereas following his conviction as an accessory after the fact and following his subsequent sentence to life imprison-

ment at Fort Jefferson, the United States Government prison at Garden Key, in the Dry Tortugas, Florida, Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd, though a prisoner, rendered heroic and invaluable medical aid to yellow fever victims who inhabited said fort and said key; and

Whereas in recognition of Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd's innocence of the charges which resulted in his life imprisonment he was given a complete and unconditional pardon by President Andrew Johnson; and

Whereas the ruins of Fort Jefferson, Garden Key, Florida, were declared a national monument by President Franklin D. Roosevelt: Therefore be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That, in recognition of the unselfish services rendered to
- 4 fellow prisoners by Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd while
- 5 he was imprisoned for a crime which he did not commit
- 6 *imprisoned*, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and
- 7 directed to erect a memorial tablet of appropriate design on
- 8 the site of the ruins of Fort Jefferson, Garden Key, Florida,
- 9 to the memory of Doctor Samuel Alexander Mudd.



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